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9 dba GLOBAL SEARCH

10

11 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
12 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

13

14 GLOBAL TECHNICAL SEARCH, INC. dba  
15 GLOBAL SEARCH, a California Corporation,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 LELAND JACOBSEN, an individual; and  
19 DOES 1 through 25, inclusive,

20 Defendants.

21 Case No. 3:08-CV-00424-BEN-BLM

22

23 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND  
24 AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF  
25 PLAINTIFF GLOBAL TECHNICAL  
26 SEARCH, INC. dba GLOBAL  
27 SEARCH'S APPLICATION FOR  
28 TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER  
AND MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY  
INJUNCTION**

29

30 Judge: Hon. Roger T. Benitez  
31 Dept.: Courtroom 3  
32 Date: March 21, 2008  
33 Time: 9:30 a.m.

34

35 GLOBAL TECHNICAL SEARCH, INC. ("GLOBAL SEARCH") respectfully submits  
36 the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Its Application for  
37 Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction:

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1        **I. INTRODUCTION**

2        GLOBAL SEARCH is a recruiting firm that specializes in recruiting and placing personnel  
3 and executives for environmental, engineering and corporate employer-clients nationwide.  
4        GLOBAL SEARCH has invested substantial time and money developing information and  
5 knowledge relating to its employer-clients and the business of recruiting and placing candidates.  
6 This information developed by GLOBAL SEARCH over the past 18 years is confidential and  
7 proprietary and contains confidential employer-client and candidate information, including but not  
8 limited to, identity of candidates, candidate information, identity of employer-clients, personnel  
9 needs of employer-clients, fee agreements, pricing, and other sensitive and confidential  
10 information.

11        Defendant LELAND JACOBSEN was an employee with GLOBAL SEARCH from on or  
12 about May 8, 2006 to on or about January 2, 2008. GLOBAL SEARCH recently learned that  
13 JACOBSEN downloaded GLOBAL SEARCH's confidential and proprietary information without  
14 GLOBAL SEARCH's consent and is using said information for his own purposes. GLOBAL  
15 SEARCH also recently learned that JACOBSEN has recently contacted several of GLOBAL  
16 SEARCH's employer-clients and offered his services in personnel recruitment and placement.

17        GLOBAL SEARCH has filed concurrently with this application a Complaint asserting  
18 causes of action for: violation of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, 18 U.S.C. §1030; violation  
19 of California *Penal Code* section 502(c)(2); unfair business practices in violation of California  
20 *Business and Professions Code* section 17200, *et seq.*; breach of contract; conversion; and  
21 declaratory relief.

22        There is no doubt that GLOBAL SEARCH is likely to succeed on the merits of each of its  
23 claims and that GLOBAL SEARCH is in need of immediate injunctive relief from this Court to  
24 protect it from any further misconduct by JACOBSEN. For these reasons, and the reasons stated  
25 more fully below, GLOBAL SEARCH respectfully requests that its Emergency Application for  
26 Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction be granted as requested.

27        ///

28        ///

1       **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

2       **A. GLOBAL SEARCH's CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

3       GLOBAL SEARCH is a recruiting firm that specializes in recruiting and placing personnel  
4       and executives for environmental, engineering and corporate employer-clients nationwide.  
5       GLOBAL SEARCH has invested substantial time and money developing information and  
6       knowledge relating to its employer-clients and the business of recruiting and placing candidates.  
7       (Declaration of Michael Burnett ("Burnett Dec.") at ¶ 3.) This information developed by  
8       GLOBAL SEARCH over the past 18 years is confidential and proprietary and contains  
9       confidential employer-client and candidate information, including but not limited to, identity of  
10      candidates, candidate information, identity of employer-clients, personnel needs of employer-  
11      clients, fee agreements, pricing, and other sensitive and confidential information. (Burnett Dec. at  
12      ¶ 4.)

13      GLOBAL SEARCH organizes, maintains and accesses this confidential and proprietary  
14      information it has developed using the ACT! software program installed on GLOBAL SEARCH's  
15      networked office computers. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 5.) Employees input this confidential and  
16      proprietary information into the ACT! database and use the software to match potential  
17      employment candidates to prospective employers in furtherance of GLOBAL SEARCH's  
18      recruitment business. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 6; Declaration of Linda Rutherford ("Rutherford Dec.")  
19      at ¶ 5.) GLOBAL SEARCH and its employees additionally use these computers to communicate  
20      with clients nationwide. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 7.) GLOBAL SEARCH rigorously maintains the  
21      confidentiality of its proprietary information because the information provides GLOBAL  
22      SEARCH with a competitive advantage in the marketplace from which GLOBAL SEARCH  
23      derives economic value. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 8.) Furthermore, GLOBAL SEARCH informs the  
24      candidates and its employer-clients that information they provide GLOBAL SEARCH to assist in  
25      the placement and/or recruitment of candidates will be kept confidential. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 9.)

26      ///

27      ///

28      ///

1           **B. JACOBSEN'S EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH**  
2           **GLOBAL SEARCH**

3           JACOBSEN was an employee with GLOBAL SEARCH from on or about May 8, 2006 to  
4           on or about January 2, 2008. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 11.) His job title was Independent National  
5           Associate. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 12.) JACOBSEN entered into a written employment agreement  
6           with GLOBAL SEARCH on or about May 8, 2006. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 12.) The employment  
7           agreement was signed on behalf of GLOBAL SEARCH by Michael Burnett. (Burnett Dec. at ¶  
8           12.) A true and correct copy of the employment agreement, titled Independent National  
9           Associate Account Executive Employment Agreement ("Employment Agreement") is lodged  
10          herewith as **Exhibit "1."**

11          GLOBAL SEARCH specifically included terms in the Employment Agreement regarding  
12          its confidential and proprietary information. Section 2(a)(vii) of the Employment Agreement  
13          states that the Independent National Associate ("INA"):

14           acknowledges that the duties of an INA are confidential,  
15           sensitive and professional in nature, and that they require  
16           the Account Executive to function in a discretionary  
17           executive capacity with regard to screening candidates and  
18           advising candidates and employer-clients, assisting them in  
19           negotiations, and otherwise developing and managing the  
20           areas of the Company's business for which the INA is  
21           assigned responsibility . . .

22          Section 4(f) of the Employment Agreement further states:

23           the term "Company's Proprietary Information" as used in  
24           this Agreement means the Company's confidential  
25           proprietary information constituting the trade secrets of the  
26           Company, including but not limited to information of a  
27           technical and business nature pertaining to the Company's  
28           personnel placement service business, the identity of  
            candidates, the personal information supplied by candidates,  
            information concerning the identy [sic] of employer-clients  
            and their personnel, the personnel needs and requirements  
            of employer-clients and terms and conditions under which  
            the Company deals with employer-clients, other customer  
            lists, training manuals, training tapes, computer programs,  
            films, video cassettes, records, forms, unique techniques,  
            methods and procedures for the operation of a personnel  
            placement service business or similar types of businesses, its  
            contacts with such companies, its suppliers, etc. . . .

1           Section 5(b)(i) of the Employment Agreement states:

2           that *upon termination of this Agreement, the INA shall*  
3           *immediately turn over to the Company the Company's*  
4           *Proprietary Information*, including but without limiting the  
5           generality of the foregoing, any and all lists, documents, or  
6           other types of records and any written, typed or printed  
7           materials identifying the candidates of the Company or  
8           identifying the employer-clients or personnel of employer-  
9           clients together with any and all data involving advertising  
10          techniques, candidate processing, forms, correspondence or  
11          data in any way involving the Company's techniques,  
12          training manuals, training tapes, video cassettes, computer  
13          programs, materials, methods or contacts, *and that the INA*  
14          *shall have no right to retain any copies of the foregoing*  
15          *for any reason whatsoever after termination of his or her*  
16          *employment hereunder* without the express written consent  
17          of the Company . . . .

18          [Emphasis added.]

19          Section 6 of the Employment Agreement states:

- 20          (a)     It is understood and agreed that, in the course of his  
21           or her employment hereunder and through the INA's  
22           activities for and on behalf of the Company, the INA  
23           will receive, deal with and have access to the  
24           Company's Proprietary Information and that the  
25           INA holds the Company's Proprietary Information  
26           in trust and confidence for the Company.
- 27          (b)     *The INA agrees that he or she shall not, during*  
28           *the term of this Agreement, or thereafter in any*  
29           *fashion, form or manner, directly or indirectly,*  
30           *retain, make copies of, divulge, disclose or*  
31           *communicate to any person, in any manner*  
32           *whatsoever, except when necessary or required in*  
33           *the normal course of the INA employment*  
34           *hereunder and for the benefit of the Company or*  
35           *with the express written consent of the Company:*
- 36          (i)      *the Company's Proprietary Information; or*
- 37          (ii)     *any information of any kind, nature or*  
38           *description whatsoever concerning any*  
39           *matters affecting or relating to the*  
40           *Company's personnel placement service*  
41           *business and the Company's personnel*  
42           *placement service.*

43          [Emphasis added.]

44          ///

1           C. **JACOBSEN DOWNLOADS GLOBAL SEARCH's CONFIDENTIAL AND**  
2           **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION WITHOUT AUTHORITY**

3           During his employment with GLOBAL SEARCH, JACOBSEN was authorized to, and  
4           routinely did, access GLOBAL SEARCH's computers and ACT! database, which contained  
5           GLOBAL SEARCH's proprietary information, for the purpose of performing his duties in  
6           recruiting and placing candidates. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 14.) In late December 2007, JACOBSEN  
7           informed another employee of GLOBAL SEARCH, Linda Rutherford, that he had just had a  
8           phone line installed at his home, that he was going to download GLOBAL SEARCH's database,  
9           which contained GLOBAL SEARCH's confidential and proprietary information, and that he  
10          would not be returning to work at GLOBAL SEARCH. (Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 4.) JACOBSEN  
11          had previously informed Ms. Rutherford in November and December 2007 that he was planning  
12          on starting his own recruitment search firm. (Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 3.)

13          On or about January 2, 2008, JACOBSEN came in to work early and stayed later than  
14          was normal for him. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 15; Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 7.) On or about January 3,  
15          2008, Ms. Rutherford informed Michael Burnett, her supervisor, that she believed that  
16          JACOBSEN intended to download the ACT! database for his own personal use and that  
17          JACOBSEN had told her he was planning to start his own search firm. (Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 8.)

18          On January 3, 2008, Mr. Burnett contacted Mark McKinley, a forensic computer  
19          consultant, and requested that Mr. McKinley examine and analyze JACOBSEN's computer to  
20          determine if JACOBSEN had indeed downloaded GLOBAL SEARCH's confidential and  
21          proprietary information. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 17; McKinley Dec. at ¶ 3.)

22          On January 3, 2008, Mr. McKinley examined and analyzed Mr. JACOBSEN's office  
23          computer. (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 4.) Mr. McKinley was able to determine that there were two  
24          insertions of a USB memory stick, which are used to download information, into JACOBSEN's  
25          computer on January 2, 2008, one at 7:45 a.m. and one at 7:46 a.m. (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 4.) The  
26          memory stick inserted was a Corsair 4 gigabyte Flash Voyager memory stick, with a serial number  
27          A90000000245435&#53f56307-b6bf-11d0-94f2-00a0c913fb8b. (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 7;  
28          Burnett Dec. at ¶ 18.)

1 GLOBAL SEARCH also routinely retains Ken Dubs, Jr. to design and maintain GLOBAL  
2 SEARCH's website. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19.) On January 3, 2008, Mr. Dubs was at GLOBAL  
3 SEARCH's office setting up the internet on several office computers, including Mr.  
4 JACOBSEN's computer. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19.) While at GLOBAL SEARCH's office, Mr.  
5 Dubs, together with Mr. Burnett found the packaging for a USB memory stick in the wastebasket  
6 at Mr. JACOBSEN's desk. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19; McKinley Dec. at ¶ 7.) The packaging was for  
7 a Corsair 4 gigabyte Flash Voyager memory stick, the same as that identified on JACOBSEN's  
8 computer file management print out. (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 7; Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19.) The package  
9 had been opened and the memory stick removed. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19.) A USB memory stick  
10 can be used to copy and store information from a computer's hard-drive to the memory stick,  
11 which can then be transferred from the memory stick to another computer system. (McKinley  
12 Dec. at ¶ 8.) A memory stick with a 4 gigabyte storage capacity would be able to store the  
13 confidential and proprietary information contained in GLOBAL SEARCH's ACT! database.  
14 (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 9.)

15 GLOBAL SEARCH never gave JACOBSEN its consent or authorization to download  
16 any of its confidential and proprietary information from its computers for his own personal use.  
17 (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 20.) JACOBSEN's authority to access and/or use the proprietary information  
18 and database was limited to the purpose of performing his job duties as an Independent National  
19 Associate with GLOBAL SEARCH. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 21.)

20 JACOBSEN did not return to work at GLOBAL SEARCH after January 2, 2008.

21 **D. JACOBSEN IS USING GLOBAL SEARCH'S CONFIDENTIAL AND**  
**PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

23 JACOBSEN has recently contacted several of GLOBAL SEARCH's employer-clients and  
24 offered his services in personnel recruitment and placement. This was confirmed when Mr.  
25 Burnett contacted several of GLOBAL SEARCH's employer-clients and was informed that they  
26 had recently been contacted by JACOBSEN offering his services in recruiting and placing  
27 candidates. (Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 22.) JACOBSEN has also recently contacted candidates listed  
28 in the database offering his services. (Declaration of Dan Beasley ("Beasley Dec." at ¶ 5.)

Moreover, Mr. Burnett received correspondence dated February 8, 2008, from an attorney, William T. Pascoe, representing JACOBSEN which stated that Mr. JACOBSEN was "free to contact any former clients or business connections with whom he established any relationship, whether or not they are a current client of Global Technical Search, Inc." A true and correct copy of this letter is lodged herewith as Exhibit "2."

### **III. ENABLING AUTHORITY**

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure rule 65(b)(1) states:

The court may issue a temporary restraining order without written or oral notice to the adverse party or its attorney only if:

(A) specific facts in an affidavit or a verified complaint clearly show that immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage will result to the movant before the adverse party can be heard in opposition; and

(B) the movant's attorney certifies in writing any efforts made to give notice and the reasons why it should not be required.

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure rule 65(a)(1) provides that "[t]he court may issue a preliminary injunction only on notice to the adverse party."

### **IV. GOOD CAUSE EXISTS TO GRANT A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER**

The Ninth Circuit has developed two tests to be used in determining whether preliminary injunctive relief or a temporary restraining order should be granted.

Under the "traditional" criteria, a plaintiff must show "(1) a strong likelihood of success on the merits, (2) the possibility of irreparable injury to plaintiff if preliminary relief is not granted, (3) a balance of hardships favoring the plaintiff, and (4) advancement of the public interest (in certain cases)." [Citations omitted.] Alternatively, a court may grant the injunction if the plaintiff "demonstrates *either* a combination or probable success on the merits and the possibility of irreparable injury *or* that serious questions are raised and the balance of hardships tips sharply in his favor." [Citations omitted.]

*Save Our Sonoran, Inc. v. Flowers, et al.* 408 F.3d 1113, 1120 (2005 9<sup>th</sup> Cir.)

Here, the evidence is overwhelming that GLOBAL SEARCH is likely to succeed on its claims, that it will be irreparably harmed if JACOBSEN is not enjoined, and that serious questions

are raised sufficient to warrant a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction given the balance of hardships.

**A. GLOBAL SEARCH IS LIKELY TO PREVAIL ON THE MERITS OF EACH OF ITS CLAIMS**

As stated above, under either the “traditional” or “alternative” test, a plaintiff must show a likelihood of prevailing on the merits to obtain a temporary restraining order or a preliminary injunction. *Save Our Sonoran, Inc., supra*, 408 F.3d at 1120. Given the overwhelming evidence before this Court presented through multiple affidavits, GLOBAL SEARCH can demonstrate a likelihood of success on each of its claims.

## **1. GLOBAL SEARCH Is Likely to Prevail on Its Computer Fraud Abuse Act Claim**

GLOBAL SEARCH's first cause of action is for violations of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act ("CFAA"), 18 U.S.C. §1030. The CFAA provides, in relevant part:

(a) Whoever -

\* \* \*

(5)(A)(iii) intentionally accesses a protected computer without authorization, and as a result of such conduct, causes damage; and

(B) by conduct described in clause . . . (iii) of subparagraph (A), caused . . .

(i) loss to 1 or more persons during any 1-year period . . . aggregating at least \$5,000 in value . . .

\* \* \*

(e)(2) the term "protected computer" means a computer -

\* \* \*

(B) which is used in interstate or foreign commerce or communication . . . .

\* \* \*

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三

(g) Any person who suffers damage or loss by reason of a violation of this section may maintain a civil action against the violator to obtain compensatory damages and injunctive relief or other equitable relief.

[Emphasis added.]

The CFAA expressly provides plaintiffs, like GLOBAL SEARCH, with a civil cause of action against those, like JACOBSEN, who have caused a plaintiff to suffer damage or loss through a violation of the CFAA. One of the remedies available to injured parties through the CFAA is injunctive relief. (18 U.S.C. §1030(g).) JACOBSEN plainly violated the provisions in the statute.

GLOBAL SEARCH organizes, maintains and accesses its confidential and proprietary information it has developed over the past 18 years using the ACT! software program installed on GLOBAL SEARCH's networked office computers. (Burnett Dec. at ¶¶ 3-5.) Employees input this confidential and proprietary information into the ACT! database and use the software to match potential employment candidates to prospective employers in furtherance of GLOBAL SEARCH's recruitment business. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 6.; Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 5.) GLOBAL SEARCH and its employees additionally use these computers to communicate with clients nationwide. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 7.)

JACOBSEN violated the CFAA when he accessed and downloaded this protected information without GLOBAL SEARCH's authorization for the benefit of himself. (*Shurgard Storage Centers, Inc. v. Safeguard Self Storage*, 119 F.Supp.2d 1121 (W.D. Wash. 2000) (enjoining former employees under the CFAA).) In *Shurgard Storage*, the plaintiff alleged that one of its competitors engaged in a scheme to steal its trade secrets and employees. Plaintiff also alleged that, in furtherance of that scheme, some of its own employees prior to terminating their employment used its computers to e-mail confidential information to the defendant. The *Shurgard* Court found that the plaintiff stated a claim under the CFAA and that its employees were no longer "authorized" to access this information once they began acting outside the scope of their employment with the plaintiff. (*Id.* at 1124.)

11

1       Similarly, JACOBSEN intentionally accessed GLOBAL SEARCH's computers and ACT!  
2 database to download information for his own personal use. Such action was in excess of  
3 JACOBSEN's permissive use of his office computer, the ACT! database, and the confidential and  
4 proprietary information contained thereon. There is clear and convincing evidence that  
5 JACOBSEN downloaded the database to a USB memory stick on January 2, 2008 and that he is  
6 currently using the information he downloaded to contact GLOBAL SEARCH's clients in an  
7 effort to directly compete with GLOBAL SEARCH. Indeed, Mr. JACOBSEN admitted to a  
8 colleague, Ms. Rutherford, that he intended to download the database and that he would be  
9 leaving GLOBAL SEARCH to start his own firm and his own attorney informed Mr. Burnett that  
10 Mr. JACOBSEN was free to contact former clients or business associates, indicating Mr.  
11 JACOBSEN was using or intended to use the information contained in the database to make these  
12 contacts. Moreover, JACOBSEN's actions have caused damages to GLOBAL SEARCH in  
13 excess of \$5,000.00 in costs to retain a forensic computer consultant, lost billable time in the  
14 investigation and lost revenue. Therefore, it is likely that GLOBAL SEARCH will prevail on this  
15 claim.

16       2.      **GLOBAL SEARCH Is Likely to Prevail on Its Claims for Violation of**  
17            **California Penal Code §502(c)**

18       California *Penal Code* section 502, *et seq.*, provides in relevant part:

19           (c)     . . . any person who commits any of the following  
20           acts is guilty of a public offense:  
21                                  \* \* \*

22           (2) *Knowingly accesses and without permission takes,*  
23           *copies, or makes use of any data from a computer,*  
24           *computer system, or computer network, or takes or copies*  
25           *any supporting documentation, whether existing or*  
26           *residing internal or external to a computer, computer*  
27           *system, or computer network.*

28                                  \* \* \*  
29           (e)(1) In addition to any other civil remedy available, the  
30           owner or lessee of the computer, computer system,  
31           computer network, computer program, or data who suffers  
32           damage or loss by reason of a violation of any of the

provisions of subdivision (c) may bring a civil action against the violator for compensatory damages and injunctive relief or other equitable relief. . . .

[Emphasis added.]

California *Penal Code* section 502(c) is California's version of the CFAA and also includes injunctive relief as a remedy for the aggrieved party. Accordingly, the same arguments set forth above as to why GLOBAL SEARCH would prevail on its claim for violations of the CFAA similarly apply to its claim for violations of *Penal Code* section 502(c).

### **3. GLOBAL SEARCH Is Likely to Prevail on Its Claim for Unlawful Business Practices**

GLOBAL SEARCH's third cause of action is for unlawful business practices, in violation of California *Business and Professions Code* section 17200, *et seq.* California *Business and Professions Code* section 17200 provides that unfair competition shall mean and include "all unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising." As outlined above, JACOBSEN has violated both the Computer Fraud Abuse Act and California *Penal Code* section 502(c) by accessing and downloading GLOBAL SEARCH's database containing its confidential and proprietary information. JACOBSEN continued to engage in unlawful business practices when he used the misappropriated information to contact and solicit business from GLOBAL SEARCH's clients. Given this, GLOBAL SEARCH is likely to succeed on its claim for unlawful business practices.

### **4. GLOBAL SEARCH Is Likely to Prevail on Its Claim for Breach of Written Contract**

GLOBAL SEARCH's fourth cause of action is for breach of written contract, specifically, the Employment Agreement JACOBSEN entered into with GLOBAL SEARCH. As set forth above, JACOBSEN entered into a written employment agreement with GLOBAL SEARCH on or about May 8, 2006. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 12.) The Employment Agreement was signed on behalf of GLOBAL SEARCH by Michael Burnett. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 12.) A true and correct copy of the Employment Agreement is lodged herewith as Exhibit "1."

///

1       The Employment Agreement contained express provisions defining what GLOBAL  
2 SEARCH's confidential and proprietary information was and specifically stated that Mr.  
3 JACOBSEN was required to return any such information upon termination of his employment  
4 with the company. JACOBSEN also expressly agreed not to take, disclose or disseminate any  
5 confidential or proprietary information. However, JACOBSEN clearly downloaded the database  
6 from his office computer to a USB memory stick and is now using the confidential and  
7 proprietary information contained in that database to contact GLOBAL SEARCH's clients and  
8 candidates in an effort to directly compete with GLOBAL SEARCH in its employment  
9 recruitment business. Tellingly, this download occurred on what was ultimately Mr.  
10 JACOBSEN's last day of employment with GLOBAL SEARCH as he did not return to work  
11 after the day of the downloads. Such action is clearly in violation of the terms of the Employment  
12 Agreement JACOBSEN entered into with GLOBAL SEARCH. Therefore, GLOBAL SEARCH  
13 is also likely to succeed on its claim for breach of contract.

14           **5.     GLOBAL SEARCH Is Likely to Succeed on Its Claim for Conversion**

15       GLOBAL SEARCH's fifth cause of action is for conversion. GLOBAL SEARCH  
16 contends that JACOBSEN's act of downloading and taking its database containing its confidential  
17 and proprietary information constituted a conversion of GLOBAL SEARCH's property. Under  
18 California law "[c]onversion is the wrongful exercise of dominion over personal property of  
19 another." (Witkin, Summary of California Law - Torts (10<sup>th</sup> ed.) at §699.) GLOBAL SEARCH  
20 will likely be able to establish that JACOBSEN wrongfully downloaded and took its database. An  
21 analysis of JACOBSEN's office computer conducted on January 3, 2008 showed two downloads  
22 of information to a Corsair 4 gigabyte Flash Voyager memory stick on January 2, 2008, Mr.  
23 JACOBSEN's last day of employment with GLOBAL SEARCH. (McKinley Dec. at ¶ 4.)  
24 Moreover, the packaging for a Corsair 4 gigabyte Flash Voyager memory stick was found in the  
25 wastebasket at JACOBSEN's desk on January 3, 2008. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19; McKinley Dec. at  
26 ¶ 7.) The packaging had been opened and the memory stick removed. (Burnett Dec. at ¶ 19.)  
27 Additionally, JACOBSEN told his colleague, Ms. Rutherford, that he intended to download  
28           ///

1 GLOBAL SEARCH's database and start his own recruitment firm. (Rutherford Dec. at ¶ 4.)  
2 Therefore, GLOBAL SEARCH is more than likely to prevail on its claim for conversion.

3       **6. GLOBAL SEARCH IS Likely to Succeed on Its Claim for Declaratory  
4                      Relief**

5       GLOBAL SEARCH's sixth cause of action is for declaratory relief. GLOBAL  
6       SEARCH requests the Court make certain findings and determinations regarding the rights and  
7       duties of each parties. Specifically, GLOBAL SEARCH asks the Court to make determinations  
8       regarding the rights and duties as defined in the Employment Agreement and that JACOBSEN  
9       breached the Employment Agreement by downloading GLOBAL SEARCH's confidential and  
10      proprietary information without GLOBAL SEARCH's knowledge and consent and using said  
11      information to gain a competitive advantage over plaintiff. Given the evidence regarding the  
12      download from JACOBSEN's office computer, his contacting GLOBAL SEARCH's employer-  
13      clients and candidates, and his statements that he intended to take the database and start his own  
14      recruitment firm as set forth above, it is likely that GLOBAL SEARCH will prevail on its claim  
15      for declaratory relief.

16       **B. GLOBAL SEARCH WILL SUFFER IMMEDIATE AND IRREPARABLE HARM  
17                      WITHOUT A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND PRELIMINARY  
18                      INJUNCTION**

19       If GLOBAL SEARCH does not obtain immediate injunctive relief in this case, it will  
20      suffer devastating and irreparable harm. If JACOBSEN is allowed to continue to use the  
21      confidential and proprietary information he misappropriated from GLOBAL SEARCH, GLOBAL  
22      SEARCH will lose the competitive advantage it has obtained from this information which it has  
23      invested many years of effort and significant sums of money to develop. Moreover, GLOBAL  
24      SEARCH faces irreparable harm if JACOBSEN were to disclose this information to other  
25      potential competitors. Finally, GLOBAL SEARCH would further be irreparably harmed if  
26      information regarding the candidates or the employer-clients were disclosed, as GLOBAL  
27      SEARCH informs the candidates and the employer-clients that their information will be kept  
28      confidential. Damages would not be an adequate remedy for actual or threatened disclosure of  
      such confidential and proprietary information.

1 Unless JACOBSEN is enjoined as requested, there is a significant threat that GLOBAL  
2 SEARCH's information will be disclosed to others, significantly impairing GLOBAL SEARCH's  
3 ability to protect that information. JACOBSEN's possession of GLOBAL SEARCH's  
4 information gives its competitors, including JACOBSEN, an unfair short-cut advantage,  
5 potentially leading to lost clients and market share for GLOBAL SEARCH, as well as damage to  
6 GLOBAL SEARCH's nationwide reputation as a recognized industry leader in employment  
7 recruitment specializing in engineering and science. Only through an immediate injunction will  
8 further injury be prevented.

9           C. **THE BALANCE OF HARDSHIPS AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST WEIGH HEAVILY IN**  
10           **FAVOR OF GRANTING GLOBAL SEARCH THE REQUESTED TEMPORARY**  
11           **RESTRAINING ORDER AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

12           In considering the appropriateness of injunctive relief, the court should balance the  
13 possible harm to plaintiff from denying the temporary restraining order against the possible harm  
14 to the defendant from granting it. *See, e.g., Amoco Production Co. v. Village of Gambell,*  
15 *Alaska*, 480 U.S. 531 (1987).

16           Here, JACOBSEN will not suffer undue hardship if a temporary restraining order or a  
17 preliminary injunction is granted. JACOBSEN is still free to operate his own recruitment search  
18 firm; he would just be prohibited from using GLOBAL SEARCH's confidential and proprietary  
19 information contained in the database while doing so. Any harm that would be suffered by  
20 JACOBSEN, which is minimal, should be discounted by the fact that it is the result of his own  
21 unlawful behavior. Furthermore, the harm that GLOBAL SEARCH would suffer, as described  
22 above, far outweighs any harm JACOBSEN might incur if the temporary restraining order and  
23 injunction were granted. When the certain immediate and irreparable harm to GLOBAL  
24 SEARCH is weighed against the minimal harm (or "hardship") that would be imposed on  
25 JACOBSEN if a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction are entered, the equities  
weigh heavily in favor of GLOBAL SEARCH.

26           Additionally, it is in the public interest to grant the requested temporary restraining order  
27 and preliminary injunction. The protection of personal information is at a premium these days  
28 especially given the prevalence of identity theft, stalking, etc. Potential candidates seeking

1 employment provide their personal information to a recruiter with the expectation that it will be  
2 kept confidential and private. When such information is wrongfully taken from the recruiter, it  
3 could cause major concern with the candidates that their personal information may be misused or  
4 fall into the wrong hands. Clearly, it is in the public's interest to protect personal information  
5 from misuse or dissemination.

6 **V. CONCLUSION**

7 For all of the foregoing reasons, GLOBAL SEARCH respectfully requests that its  
8 Application be granted and that the court enter temporary restraining order as follows:

9 (1) That JACOBSEN, his officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all  
10 parties in active concert or participation with him be temporarily and preliminarily enjoined from  
11 using or disclosing any confidential or proprietary information that JACOBSEN obtained from  
12 GLOBAL SEARCH;

13 (2) That JACOBSEN, his officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all  
14 parties in active concert or participation with him be enjoined and ordered to return to GLOBAL  
15 SEARCH all originals and all copies of files, data, and information removed from GLOBAL  
16 SEARCH, including, but not limited to, the confidential and proprietary information and database  
17 that JACOBSEN downloaded;

18 (3) That because the information downloaded from GLOBAL SEARCH's computers  
19 by JACOBSEN was in an electronic format that can be quickly and easily disseminated to a large  
20 number of entities, perfectly copied, uploaded onto other computers, and forwarded to other  
21 individuals who can further utilize and disseminate the information, JACOBSEN be ordered  
22 immediately to preserve all discs, memory sticks and electronic storage devices in his possession,  
23 custody and control to which he had access, that JACOBSEN must turn over to a third-party  
24 investigator representative of GLOBAL SEARCH all electronic storage media in his possession,  
25 custody or control, including but not limited to, discs, memory sticks and hard drives accessible to  
26 JACOBSEN on which GLOBAL SEARCH's information may reside and that GLOBAL  
27 SEARCH be permitted to image and analyze said media and devices to recover GLOBAL  
28 SEARCH's confidential and proprietary information; and

1                   (4) That JACOBSEN be enjoined and ordered to provide a sworn statement and  
2 accounting of the whereabouts of all files, data, and information removed from GLOBAL  
3 SEARCH's computers.

4                   GLOBAL SEARCH also respectfully requests that the Court set a further hearing within  
5 10 days of this application as to GLOBAL SEARCH's motion for a preliminary injunction  
6 requesting that JACOBSEN be enjoined from the same actions as set forth above in the request  
7 for a temporary restraining order.

8 Dated: March 18, 2008

NOON & ASSOCIATES, APC

9  
10 By:

  
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12 Kathy J. Steinman  
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14 TECHNICAL SEARCH, INC. dba  
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